

## Historic Environment Service (Projects), Cornwall County Council - Short Report Form

Report No 2004R108	Report Name Harvey's Foundry Farm Test Pits	Report Author Jo Sturgess
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Event Type Watching Brief			
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Client Organisation Stride Treglown	Client Contact Phil Smith
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Monuments (MonUID) Stable PRN 138988	Yard PRN 140933				
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### Description (Background/Methods/Results)

The stable building at Harvey's Foundry is not at present a Listed structure. It is located at NGR SW 5576 3703, and is an L-shaped building, first depicted on maps in 1828 and forms the southern corner of the stable yard. This is a former stable block (and is named as such on plans dated 1853 and 1864).

HES was commissioned by Philip Smith of Stride Treglown to carry out a watching brief during the excavation of six test pits within the stable block at Harvey's Foundry. The test pits were excavated by Stride Treglown to investigate the make-up of the underlying strata, and examine the nature and depth of the footings of the building. All six test pits were archaeologically monitored during excavation. This work was carried out on 21/4/04. A further test pit was excavated in the stable yard immediately to the north of the kerbed area of cobbles in the yard on the following day (22/4/04). This test pit was not monitored.

The stable building is formed by two wings, one aligned NW-SE and the other NE-SW. Three test pits were dug in each wing all measuring approximately 0.6m x 0.6m in plan. In both wings there was a modern concrete floor 0.1m deep. The natural strata (an orange silty clay containing light bluish grey weathering killas) was encountered in all of the test pits at a depth of between 0.1m and 0.6m below the concrete floor surfaces.

In the NE-SW wing test pits 1-3 showed that no earlier floors survived below the modern concrete floor, and the concrete floor was separated from the natural strata only by a thin lens of dark brown silt (0.05m maximum depth). The front wall of this wing was originally built entirely from cob on the ground floor, but had been strengthened in the past by surrounding the cob wall both internally and externally with a brick wall. In test pit 1 the brick wall was constructed directly on top of the natural strata. However, footings of the original cob wall behind the brick could not be seen. Along the rear wall of this wing test pits 2 and 3 revealed that the base of the straight sided killas footings lay at a depth of between 0.5m and 0.6m below the concrete floor surface. The construction cut for the rear wall is cut into the natural strata. In test pit 2 an iron pipe was encountered running parallel to the rear wall and 0.4m away from the internal face. It had a diameter of 0.05m.

In the NW-SE wing test pits 4-6 showed that no earlier *in situ* floors survived below the modern concrete floor. In test pits 5 and 6 immediately below the concrete was a layer of quartz cobbles and fragments of granite. These did not form a floor but it seems likely that the quartz cobbles had formed the original surface within the building which had been taken up and reused as hard core for the concrete floor. Immediately below the layer of cobbles and stone was a thin lens of dark brown silt (0.05m maximum depth) which lay on top of the natural strata. The base of the front wall killas and granite footings was evident at 0.3m below the concrete floor surface here. A construction cut for the front wall was not evident and the footings lay directly on top of the natural strata. Test pit 4 was located along the rear wall of this wing. Here the concrete floor overlay a layer of earth and building rubble 0.15m deep. The rubble layer directly overlay the natural strata. The base of the killas wall footings lay at a depth of 0.1m below the concrete floor

surface and were constructed directly on top of the natural strata.

Results from the watching brief on the six test pits have shown that there are no intact earlier floor surfaces within either of the two wings of the stable block. The natural strata (an orange silty clay containing light bluish grey weathering killas) was encountered in all of the test pits at a depth of between 0.1m and 0.6m below the concrete floor surfaces.

Fieldwork dates(From)	(To)	(Created By)	(Create Date)
21/4/04	22/4/04	Jo Sturgess	17/12/04

District	Location (postal address; or general location and parish)
Kerrier	Harvey's Foundry

(Town – for urban sites)	(Postcode)
Hayle	

(Easting) X co-ord	(Northing) Y co-ord		
SW 5576	3703		

References

Source reserved	UID	Author(s)	Date	Title	Page

Illustrations accompanying this report

Fig no	Description
	Location of Test Pits

Project Archive

Project number: 2004030	Project name: Harvey's Foundry Farm Test Pits
<b>Project files</b>	<b>Photos</b>
<b>Drawings</b>	GBP:
GRH:	GCS:
GRE: 499	GCP:
Digital drawings and maps: ...Drawings\CAD archive\Sites H\Harvey's foundry farm test pits 2004030	
Digital photos:	

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Digital Report File: Sites H\Harvey's foundry farm test pits  
2004030\short report.doc

Archive Location HES Offices

Other



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Location of test pits